

As an entrepreneur, Mr. Headley is the president of Diversified Flintlock Corp., a general contracting company. His company has built numerous medical centers, low-income affordable housing units, and has just recently completed a senior citizen housing unit of Berean Missionary Baptist Church in Brooklyn's east New York neighborhood, and a branch of the Carver Federal Savings Bank in Harlem.

DeCosta has been widely recognized for his civil, political, and corporate endeavors. I am pleased to commend his efforts and recognize his vast contributions.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER WILLIAM
COLEMAN COOK AND OFFICER
ROBERT VARGAS

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed a distinct honor to join with our community on July 11, 1997 to pay tribute to two of Dade County's finest, Officer William Coleman Cook and Officer Robert Vargas, who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty.

When he responded to a domestic disturbance on Wednesday May 16, 1979, 25-year-old Officer William Coleman Cook was already a 6-year veteran of the Metro-Dade Police Department. Officer Cook was shot and killed in the process of apprehending a U.S. Army deserter who had shot his wife, another woman, and critically wounded two other Metro-Dade officers.

Officer Robert Vargas had just celebrated his 28th birthday on February 4, 1997 when he was assigned to a robbery task force as part of Dade County's Operation Clean Sweep. On February 7, he responded to a call for assistance from fellow officers in pursuit of fleeing robbery suspects. While en route to assist his colleagues, Officer Vargas collided with two vehicles as he attempted to avoid a wheelchair bound individual along the way. His car was struck head-on by another vehicle, and he died instantly on the scene.

Officers William Cook and Robert Vargas represent the best and the noblest of our Dade County Police Department. They put their lives on the line on behalf of our community and risked their own safety. Their ultimate sacrifice truly exemplifies the willingness and readiness with which they served and protected us—above and beyond the call of duty.

The dedication and commitment to duty shown by Officer Cook and Officer Vargas is a great legacy they have forever bequeathed to our community. We owe a debt of gratitude to them and the loved ones they left behind.

Public servants to the very core, Officers Cook and Vargas truly epitomize the genuine bravery and heroism of which the great soldier, Gen. Douglas McArthur, spoke when he said, "They only are fit to live—those who are not afraid to die."

TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY WATSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Anthony Watson for his outstanding contributions to the health care community. Mr. Watson is the president and chief executive officer of the Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York [HIP], one of the largest health maintenance organizations [HMO's] and the largest HMO in the northeastern United States.

HIP is celebrating its 50th anniversary and Anthony Watson has played a pivotal role for HIP since 1985. Anthony has almost 20 years of experience in major public health agencies. He was formerly the supervising public health adviser at the Centers for Disease Control [CDC], the former deputy director of the New York City Comprehensive Health Planning Agency, in addition to having served as an instructor in health planning at the Herbert J. Lehman College of the City University of New York. Anthony has received numerous accolades and awards. He serves on various boards.

Mr. Watson resides in New York City with his wife, Desiree, and their two children, Alayja and Sheridan.

A TRIBUTE TO DAVID MAYER

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual, David Mayer of Franklin, WI. On July 5, 1997, David was honored by the Franklin Civic Celebrations Commission with a moving recognition ceremony highlighting his many years of dedicated service to his community.

David was born in the town of Franklin in the fall of 1918. For many years he was a partner with his brothers in a business founded by his father, Robert Mayer. He is a World War II veteran who has raised four children with his wife, Doris.

David was first elected as a Franklin supervisor in 1948 following the retirement of his father. He was responsible for many of the early accomplishments in the growing community. The town's first fire truck was brought to Franklin with David's help. That same truck was in Franklin's Fourth of July Parade this year.

David was a vital part of Franklin's city incorporation in the mid-1950's, going house to house to collect signatures from supporters of the incorporation. In the city's first election on October 2, 1956, he was elected as an alderman, and for the next 40 years he would serve under 7 mayors until his retirement in 1993.

As an alderman, David was active on many boards and commissions. He served as the council president and was also a member of the 4th of July Commission, the board of public works, and the library board. David was also an active member of the Franklin Historical Society.

I am proud to say that I know David Mayer. He has always been a man of integrity, warmth, and sincerity. Congratulations, David, on this ceremony. You truly deserve it.

TRIBUTE TO BRIAN DOUGLAS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, Brian Douglas of Cablevision of New York City has been a vital contributor in the field of telecommunications. As the public affairs manager for Cablevision he is responsible for government relations, community affairs, and public relations.

His duties include administration of the company's franchisee requirement with the city of New York, dealing with elected officials, educational outreach, and responding to the public and the press.

Brian has been employed by Cablevision since 1988 and is formerly a sales representative for Time Warner's Brooklyn Queens Division. He holds a B.A. in television and radio from Brooklyn College and graduate degree in mass communications from Drake University. Brian is also a member of the National Association of Minorities in Communications [NAMIC]. I am pleased to commend Brian for his numerous contributions and to introduce him to my House colleagues.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. MINA
SARA BARRETT

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 1997

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents and the students and faculty of SUNY College at Old Westbury, NY, as they honor Mina Barrett for outstanding professional and public service. Dr. Barrett was born in New York City in 1948 and at a very early age established her academic credentials. She was an honor student at Ocean-side High School and received her graduate and undergraduate degrees at the State University of New York at Stony Brook in the field of psychology.

In 1975, Dr. Barrett came to SUNY College at Old Westbury and became one of the founders of the Psychology Department. Rising to the position of associate professor, Dr. Barrett immediately became active on a variety of academic committees. Yet to the great benefit of both the academic and general communities of the greater New York metropolitan area, Dr. Barrett embarked upon a course of community service that would serve as a model for effective community activism.

Recognized for her deep understanding of the human mind, Dr. Barrett was appointed as a Red Cross Disaster mental health psychologist and became codirector of the Nassau County Chapter of the Red Cross for mental health. It was in 1994 that she was called upon by the city of Los Angeles to serve in an assisting office in the city's tragic earthquake. For her service rendered to the city of Los Angeles she received the Henri Dunant Humanitarian Award. Her services were again utilized